

Sunburst Site Update

Texaco Sunburst Works Refinery Cleanup

August 2012



Results of Soil Sampling in Yards

For more information or to be added to the mailing list please contact:

Chris Cote
DEQ Remediation
1100 N. Last Chance Gulch
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

Email: ccote2@mt.gov

Phone: (406) 841-5078

You can also call 1-800-246-8198 and ask for Chris.

Web information:

<http://deq.mt.gov/statesuperfund/sunburst.mcp>

Last fall, soils from 65 yards in the town of Sunburst were sampled to determine if they contained lead-contaminated soils from the former refinery. Of the 65 properties sampled, one property was found to have lead contaminated refinery soils throughout the property and three other properties were found to have small areas of lead in soils exceeding the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) residential soil level (RSL) of 400 parts per million. This summer the final cleanup of yards with lead in soil above EPA's RSL will be completed, including the three properties with only a small area found to have lead in soils above EPA's RSL. Two properties will have garages removed (and later replaced) so that soils beneath the garages can be excavated. DEQ did not require that these structures be removed, however, the property owners and Chevron opted to take this approach. Including past sampling, five properties have been found to have lead contaminated refinery soils throughout the property, and three additional properties were found to have small areas of lead contaminated soils. Three properties have already been cleaned up, and cleanup underway at the remaining five will be completed this summer. If your property has not been



Soil removal in Sunburst this July

sampled and you suspect that refinery related soils may be present, please contact DEQ at the numbers listed on the left side of the page.



Installing a groundwater monitoring well in the tank farm

Phase II Remedial Investigation Complete

Since September 2009, the majority of DEQ-required activities in Sunburst have focused on completing what's known as a "Phase II Remedial Investigation," or Phase II RI. The goal of this Phase II RI is to locate all remaining contamination in soils, groundwater, surface water, sediment, and air, and to understand how contamination has moved in the environment since the close of the refinery. After three years of hard work, field crews have completed the last remaining sampling related to the Phase II RI. Chevron's report associated with this investigation is due to DEQ on August 31, 2012. This is a major accomplishment as now work can begin to determine: 1) what levels of remaining contamination pose a risk to people or wildlife; and 2) what will be the most effective means of cleaning up this remain-

ing contamination. The risk evaluation of the remaining contamination will be conducted through a human health and ecological risk assessment. This assessment will be completed during the fall and winter of 2012. The goal of the risk assessment is to determine cleanup levels for contaminated areas based on the risk posed by the contamination. Following this risk assessment, Chevron will be required to conduct a "Feasibility Study" or FS, which will evaluate various options available to clean up areas exceeding the cleanup levels. Following the FS, DEQ will issue a Proposed Plan for final cleanup of the former refinery, on which the public will be invited to comment.

DEQ will host another public meeting in Sunburst this fall to discuss the findings of the Phase II RI and the next steps to final cleanup in Sunburst. DEQ will announce this public meeting through another Sunburst Site Update.



Montana DEQ Remediation Division
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

Phone: 406-841-5078, 1-800-246-8198
www.deq.mt.gov
ccote2@mt.gov

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality's mission is to protect, sustain, and improve a clean and healthful environment to benefit present and future generations.

CURRENT RESIDENT
SUNBURST MT 59482

2012 Summer Field Work

Field work associated with locating and cleaning up contamination from the former refinery continues this summer. The following activities are planned:

- Removal of the last lead contaminated soils from yards in town (see front page);
- Removal of some of the most highly contaminated lead soils found on the refinery property and disposal of these soils at an out of state landfill that can properly manage these soils;
- Additional fencing and more surface water and sediment sampling around a groundwater seep area immediately west of the town of Sunburst that has been found to have petroleum contaminated groundwater entering the seep;
- Continued removal of petroleum floating on the groundwater table where this exists. Since December 2007, approximately 800 gallons of petroleum have been recovered;
- A small scale study to evaluate the effectiveness of adding nitrate to groundwater for cleaning up petroleum contamination dissolved in groundwater.